## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G02B6/44 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 GO2B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to daim No. X US 5 109 457 A (VEDEJS ARTHUR G ET AL) 1,3-8, 28 April 1992 (1992-04-28) 12,14 abstract; figures column 3, line 41 -column 4, line 3 US 2003/044139 A1 (NORRIS RICHARD HARTFORD X 1,3-8ET AL) 6 March 2003 (2003-03-06) cited in the application abstract; figure 2 12-14 WO 01/84206 A (CORNING CABLE SYS LLC Α ;GIMBLET MICHAEL J (US); QUINN CHRIS M (US);) 8 November 2001 (2001-11-08) abstract; figure 1 page 6, line 30 -page 7, line 14 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. X Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 28 April 2004 12/05/2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Faderl, I Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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